

**Sub-Strategy Detail  
CHILD FATALITY REVIEW**

Agency Code:		Agency Name:	Prepared By:	Statewide Goal Code:	Strategy Code:
501		Texas Department of Health		3	05-01-01
GOAL:	05				
OBJECTIVE:	01				
STRATEGY:	01 Vital Statistics				
SUB-STRATEGY:	02 Child Fatality Review				
CODE DESCRIPTION			EXPENDED FY 2000	EXPENDED FY 2001	BUDGETED FY 2002
<b>OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:</b>					
1001 Salaries and Wages			87,602	144,929	189,929
1002 Other Personnel Costs					
2000 Operating Costs			215,314	177,144	184,654
5000 Capital Expenditures					
<b>TOTAL, OBJECTS OF EXPENSE</b>			<b>302,916</b>	<b>322,073</b>	<b>374,583</b>
<b>METHOD OF FINANCING:</b>					
777 Interagency Contracts			302,916	322,073	374,583
<b>TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING</b>			<b>302,916</b>	<b>322,073</b>	<b>374,583</b>
<b>FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS</b>			3.7	5.7	8.1

**Sub-strategy Description and Justification:**

Senate Bill 1485 created the child fatality review system. This is a combined effort of a statutory state committee with two of its permanent members from TDH (Bureau of Vital Statistics and Bureau of Epidemiology) and local child fatality review teams. TDH's primary responsibilities are to identify the child deaths, collect data from local teams as prescribed by the state committee, and perform annual statistical studies of the incidences and causes of child deaths.

This is a coordinated effort within TDH between the two bureaus mentioned above. The Bureau of Vital Statistics (BVS) identifies the deaths and sends copies of death certificates to local teams; BVS also sends matched birth transcripts, when available for all death certificates sent to child fatality teams. BVS then receives data collection forms from local teams and inputs into a database. The Bureau of Epidemiology is responsible for the statistical analysis and dissemination of this data through an annual report issued by the state committee. Funding for this initiative comes through an interagency agreement with the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.

**External/Internal Factors Impacting Sub-strategy:**

Currently, 41 local child fatality review teams exist which serve approximately 138 counties. The number of local child fatality review teams is expected to continue to increase. Using projected 2000 population data, the child fatality review teams cover approximately 83% of the Texas population. Data collection instruments will continue to be modified, as needed to improve the quantity and quality of the data collected on each death. Specific intervention strategies will continue to be developed to reduce the number of children who die unexpectedly each year. Teams pool their time, talent, commitment and resources to devise plans to ensure the safety of Texas children.